

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

March 25, 1959

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University  
Medical School  
Stanford, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

The Foundation has received the enclosed application, B-7092, requesting support of a project to develop suitable instruments for detection of microorganisms.

We would like to have the benefit of your thinking relative to several features in addition to the scientific adequacy and feasibility of the program proposed. One relates to whether or not the "hardware orientation" of the undertaking fits the basic research mission of the Foundation. The other is that of whether or not the Foundation is the appropriate supporting agency in view of the responsibilities assigned the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Certainly we would appreciate receiving your comments at your early opportunity.

*Regards*

Sincerely yours,

*George Sprugel*  
George Sprugel, Jr.  
Program Director for  
Environmental Biology